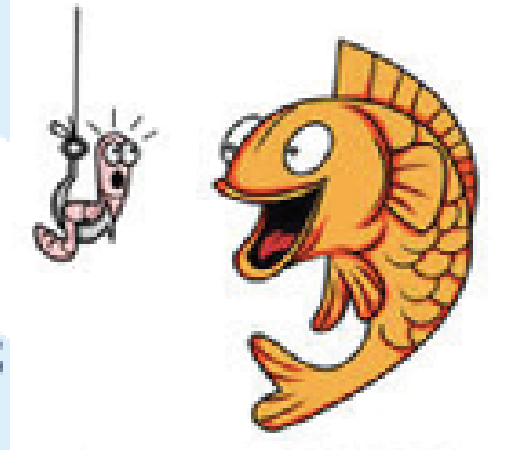


OKEECHOBEE FISH FRY

District 6



Saturday, August 25th 2018
10am – 3pm

**Please Bring a Covered Dish or Dessert to
Share**

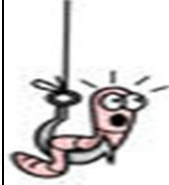
**MEETING • FOOD • FELLOWSHIP •
RAFFLE**

C. Scott Driver Park
10101 State Road 78 West
Okeechobee, FL 34974
Ticket contribution \$15



Step Eight

*Made a list of all persons we had harmed
and become willing to make amends
to them all.*



**Something FISHY's going on!
See Page 8!!!**



Looking Ahead to Making Amends:

What are Alcoholics' Moral Obligations?

*AA Grapevine November 1945
(thanks Ronny H.)*

Alcoholism has been traditionally regarded as a vice, with the implication of moral responsibility that such a characterization involves.

The modern tendency is to consider any obsessional aberration to be pathological. Hence, alcoholism is sometimes diagnosed as a disease and the victim is accordingly absolved of moral responsibility.

Do the foregoing views constitute a conflict in which intellectual honesty compels us to take sides --or may they be reconciled and integrated?

If alcoholism is a disease, it is one of which science has found so far neither cause nor cure. Dr. Silkworth in an article in the June, 1945, issue of *The Grapevine* says that "physically science does not know why a man cannot drink in moderation." The doctor also states that he is only "sure of one scientific fact -- that detoxication by medical treatment must precede any psychiatric approach."

Thus, the "physical issue" is reduced to the routine of a mere dealcoholizing process, preliminary to the really fundamental matter of dealing with what Dr. Silkworth refers

to as the "moral issue."

The A.A. Program of Recovery is devoted principally to the resolution of this "moral issue." The alcoholic is assisted in developing the personality change essential to permanent rehabilitation.

In so doing the A.A. plan proceeds on the assumption that we have "defects of character" the removal of which is requisite to a restoration of sanity. The removal is to be accomplished not alone by the revelations of psychiatric treatment (self-knowledge), but by the application of spiritual

(Continued on page 7)

Have Members with Special Needs? Please see Page 7

ST LUCIE INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.
883 E Prima Vista Blvd.
Port St Lucie, FL 34952

(in the NW corner of Prima Vista & US 1, located in Port St Lucie Plaza)
Office and 24-Hour Help Line: (772) 873-9299

Visit our website at:

www.aastlucieintergroup.com

Where you can view and download PDF copies of this and recent newsletters

To subscribe to a PDF copy of *In Gratitude* Newsletter via e-mail, e-mail a request to:
stlucieintergroup@att.net, attn: Rex B., editor

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Notices ...

The District 6 Monthly Business Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month Indian River State College 3209 Virginia Avenue Ft. Pierce At 6:30 pm Building R Room 131 (Except July in Room 248)

Come support your District!!

Visit district6aa.org

GSRs— ARE YOUR BASKET DONATIONS HELPING AA AS A WHOLE?

Does your Home Group distribute the remaining donations after Group expenses and prudent reserve according to AA Tradition?

Is your Home Group doing it's part to help support your local

Intergroup Office?

District 6? Area 15?

The General Service Office ?

Is your Home Group represented at the local monthly Intergroup steering committee meeting?

Is your local Intergroup Office and its members properly serving the needs of the local Groups?

These are questions you should be asking at your Home Group business meetings.

Get involved.

Support AA as a whole!

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE AN INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE?

Intergroup Steering Committee and Group Representatives meet the third Thursday of every month @ 7pm. Help support Intergroup

REMEMBER:

"I am responsible . . .

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.

And for that: I am responsible."

District 6 Committee Meetings

(at the Intergroup Office

883 E Prima Vista Blvd.

Port St Lucie, Fl 34952)

- DCMs/GSRs* Meeting the 1st Saturday of month 10:30 a.m.
- Corrections Committee* Meeting... the 2nd Saturday of month, 10:30 a.m.
- Events Committee* Meeting the 3rd Saturday of month, 10:30 a.m.
- PI/CPC Committee* Meeting the 4th Saturday of month 10:30 a.m.

**Please send all District 6 Group donations to:
District 6 Treasurer
P.O. Box 12248
Fort Pierce, Fl
34979-2248**

**Want to get Involved?
Bridging the Gap
needs volunteers as contacts for individuals leaving treatment.
Be their first contact.
To sign up, contact our District 6 Treatment Committee BTG
Coordinator Chris B:
Cbrady561@gmail.com
1-561-628-3604**

St. Lucie Intergroup needs to update our Twelfth Step list. If you would like to be contacted to help insure that the hand of AA is always there, please contact the Intergroup Office and leave your information: name, phone number and hours available so we can continue to help the still sick and suffering alcoholic. Call 772-873-9299 or e-mail stlucieintergroup@att.net

What are Alcoholics' Moral Obligations in Making Amends??

(Continued from page 1)

force emanating from a Power in which we have faith (Steps 6-7).

Defects of character cannot, of course, be rooted out by knowledge alone. The authors of Alcoholics Anonymous were well aware of the limitations of the aphorism that knowledge is power, for at page 50 of the book, they assert: "But the actual or potential alcoholic, with hardly an exception, will be absolutely unable to stop drinking on the basis of self-knowledge. This is a point we wish to emphasize and reem-

phasize, to smash home upon our alcoholic readers as it has been revealed to us out of bitter experience."

Elsewhere in the same text the same thought is expressed in different form and with varied application. It is said, for example, that "the alcoholic at certain times has no effective mental defense against the first drink. Except in a few rare cases, neither he nor any other human being can provide such a defense. His defense must come from a higher Power" (page 55).

Finally, for those of us who accept it, the predominance of the moral factors in the A.A. plan is summarized in the following statement at pages 35-36 of the book:

"The great fact is just this and nothing else: that we have had deep and effective spiritual experiences, which have revolutionized our whole attitude toward life, toward our fellows, and toward God's universe. The central fact of our lives today is the absolute certainty that our Creator has entered into our hearts and lives in a way which is indeed miraculous. He has commenced to accomplish those things for us which we could never do for ourselves."

Here, then, seems to be the answer to the question posed at the outset. Both moralist and scientist agree that there can be no blame imposed for a condition over which one has no con-

trol. Both agree that an alcoholic has been reduced to a state of powerlessness over alcohol. It follows that an alcoholic should not be held morally accountable for acts committed while in the grip of the obsession.

The syllogism suggests a corollary:

When an alcoholic realizes the nature of his malady, and that help, human and otherwise, is at hand and that "there is a solution," is it not reasonable to assume that an element of moral responsibility enters into the situation? Tolerance for the sinner but none for the sin is a noble sentiment. And alcoholics will probably always require understanding. But may we, who have accepted A.A. and assume to practice its precepts, continue to expect, under the new dispensation, condonation when the rules of society are broken? If the truth has made us free and the spirit has given us strength, shall we not take and maintain our places in the ranks of society without favor as well as without fear?

It is submitted that a lively sense of moral responsibility should be assiduously cultivated, the more so because of our newly found power to accept it and because in the very acceptance of it, we wax stronger and stronger as we "grow by what we feed on."

R.F.S.; Montclair, New Jersey

ADDRESSES FOR GROUP DONATIONS

GSO
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

South Florida Area 15
Treasurer
PO Box 56
Sebring, Fl 33870-0056

District 6 Treasurer
PO Box 12248
Ft. Pierce, Fl 34979-2248

St. Lucie Intergroup
Association, Inc.
883 E Prima Vista Blvd.,
Port St Lucie, Fl 34952

GSRs, ACMs and District Committee Chairs and Members: If you are aware of AA members who are using online resources to overcome hearing, sight, movement, distance, language or other challenges to accessing The Hand of Alcoholics Anonymous or are seeking such resources, please have them e-mail useful links to our St. Lucie Intergroup Webmaster at stlucieintergroup@att.net. We are attempting to create a link page on our Intergroup website as a resource for enabling access for all.

2018 Group Contributions thru June 30

GROUP	Group #	JUNE	YTD	GROUP	Group #	JUNE	YTD
11th Step Candlelight PSL		0.00	0.00	Lunch Bunch PSL	169623	0.00	300.00
A Desire To Stop GP		0.00	121.00	Men's Sobriety Group	172529	0.00	250.00
AA Promises GP	671816	0.00	0.00	Midday Matinee	172992	0.00	0.00
Alternate MC Beginners AA GP	645696	0.00	0.00	New Hope Group	163611	0.00	200.00
Back To Basics	617295	0.00	261.00	New Windmill Point	148626	0.00	0.00
Bayside GP	134955	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Discussion		0.00	0.00
Begin Where You Are	666125	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Night Group	103633	0.00	160.00
Better By The Beach	688860	0.00	408.70	Okeechobee Noon Group	147217	30.00	180.00
Better Understanding	670079	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Sobriety Group	643907	0.00	0.00
Bleeding Deacons	710958	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Women's Group		0.00	0.00
Easy Does It	149241	0.00	0.00	Primary Purpose Welcome Home	141056	0.00	150.00
Emotional Sobriety Group		0.00	0.00	Primary Purpose Bayshore	679364	0.00	100.00
Ensollielle (French, seasonal)	681471	0.00	100.00	PSL AA Tues. Nite Group	103698	20.00	140.00
Eye Opener	169889	50.00	550.00	PSL Sat. AM Men's Group	606637	0.00	600.00
First Things First	697413	0.00	558.00	Reach Out Group	714201	25.00	75.00
Friday Night Men's	604208	97.00	97.00	Sisters of Sobriety	700856	0.00	0.00
Friendship Group	103470	0.00	191.50	Step Into Action	696779	0.00	120.00
From Darkness To Light		0.00	0.00	Step Sisters	683996	0.00	0.00
Gays In Recovery	655112	0.00	50.00	Sun Rise 11th Step		0.00	0.00
Good Guys North	678914	0.00	25.00	Talking Feathers		8.00	40.00
Grupo Renacer Hispano FP (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	The Devine Appointment		0.00	0.00
Grupo Serendad PSL (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	The Steps We Took		0.00	0.00
Happy Hour Living Sober	653464	0.00	625.00	Tough Love Group	721766	0.00	0.00
Heard it thru the Grapevine GP	662713	80.00	80.00	Two Alternatives		.00	0.00
Helping Hands Group	654010	0.00	50.00	Wake-Up Group		0.00	0.00
Higher Power Sunday	679339	0.00	200.00	Warriors		50.00	130.00
Just For Today	168564	0.00	80.00	Watch your Steps	645676	0.00	125.00
Keep It Simple— Okeechobee	643906	0.00	0.00	We Stopped in Time	669606	105.00	105.00
KISS	127410	0.00	500.00	Westside Group Ft Pierce	125608	0.00	50.00
Lakewood Park	177727	40.00	240.00	Wolff Road Group Okeechobee	703404	0.00	50.00
Last Call	151221	0.00	0.00	Women Stepping Up	157843	0.00	100.00
Late Risers	681809	200.00	450.00	Women's New Beginnings	611306	0.00	0.00
Lunch Box Ft. Pierce		0.00	0.00				
TOTAL AA GP Contributions						1155.00	6854.20

This is not intended to direct AA members to specific meetings; please refer to our Where & When for area meeting places, types and times. If your group's number is not shown here, please contact the Intergroup Office so we may correct it. Thank you.

In 1957, Bill W. said, "We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and AA Literature. We support our Central Office, our Area Committee and our General Services Office. If it were not for these entities, many people would never discover the miracle of AA."

ONLINE MEETING GUIDE

NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR HOMEPAGE:

<http://aastlucieintergroup.com>

FOLLOW THIS LINK

Online Meeting Guide: The Meeting App

<http://aastlucieintergroup.com/meetings/>

FIND A MEETING

STEP INTO ACTION

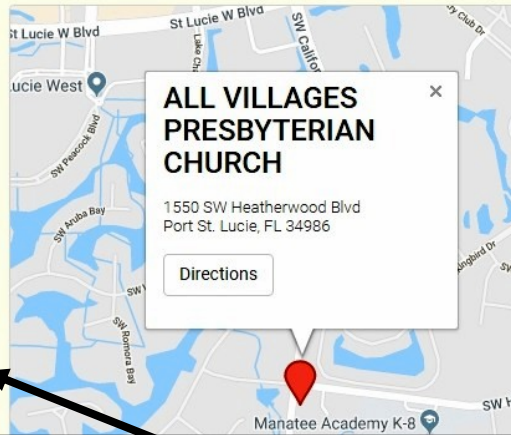
[Back to Meetings](#)

Get Directions →

Meeting Information
Monday, 7:30 pm

ALL VILLAGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2 other meetings at this location
1550 SW Heatherwood Blvd
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986
Updated April 10, 2018

ALL VILLAGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1550 SW Heatherwood Blvd
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986
Directions



GET A SCHEDULE,
MAP AND
DIRECTIONS!!!

Time	Meeting	Location	Address	Region
6:30 am	FIRST THINGS FIRST GROUP	BAYSHORE CLUB	8545 US-1	Port St. Lucie
7:30 am	BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE	NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC CHURCH	217 US-1	Fort Pierce
8:00 am	EYE OPENER GROUP	BAYSHORE CLUB	8545 US-1	Port St. Lucie
10:00 am	LATE RISERS GROUP	BAYSHORE CLUB	8545 US-1	Port St. Lucie
10:00 am	ENSEMBLE GROUP	THE CROSSINGS CHURCH	8103 Indria Rd	Fort Pierce

How AA Developed “The Talk We Talk”

The Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is a society of men and women with a unique culture that has a language all its own. This language consists of slogans, phrases, acronyms, terminology, and words that can be heard in AA Meetings around the world.

This language is often confusing to Newcomers but, even after only a short time of coming around, becomes commonplace and understood. Have you ever had to explain who John Barleycorn was? Or what the grouch and the brainstorm means? What about a 12th step call or the 13th step? How about the AA “Three-Step-Shuffle?”

The roots of much of this language have probably been lost to history, but at least some can be traced.

Our co-founder Dr. Bob was a great contributor to this verbal culture and was well known for his colorful vocabulary and use of slang. Take for example the slogan “Keep It Simple:” Dr. Bob placed great emphasis on the keep-it-simple approach to the 12

steps, elaborating his thoughts in an article he submitted to the Grapevine in 1948 (See “Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers, pg.227).

Another term, one of my personal favorites, is the term “pigeon,” used to denote a newcomer. Dr. Bob would often announce at meetings he was attending, “There’s a pigeon in Room so-and-so (at St. Thomas Hospital) who needs some attention,” letting the members know that a new prospect required a 12th step call (See “Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers, pg.146).

It is suggested that this term began as a code between Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia. Before the Alcoholic Ward was started at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, where Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia worked, it was against policy to admit, or even to treat, an alcoholic. Sister Ignatia, who believed the alcoholic could be helped, would sneak the drunk into an unoccupied room and would then tell Dr. Bob, “There’s a pigeon on the window ledge in Room

so-and-so that needs help.” Dr. Bob would then assess and usually admit the patient to the hospital with some diagnosed medical issue.

This practice of admitting the alcoholic for a hospital stay, followed up by regular visits from two sober alcoholics at a time, became the formula for great success in the early days of Alcoholic Anonymous.

Another tradition that likely started at St. Thomas Hospital is the handing out of medallions. Prior to the release of the treated alcoholic, Sister Ignatia would give the prospect a Sacred Heart Medallion, asking them to return it to her before they took the first drink, (See “Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers, pg.195).

The countless terms and traditions that help define our culture may seem strange and unusual to outsiders, “Earth-People.” But to those of us who have found release from alcoholic torture, it is part of the *Language of the Heart* we speak and tells us, “We Are Home.”

(Submitted by Bob S.)

On the Eighth Step ...

The Eighth Step ...

Made a list of all persons we had harmed and become willing to make amends to them all.

The Eighth Step Principle ...

The principle behind the 8th step is *Forgiveness*.

The Eighth Tradition ...

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

My Eighth Tradition Checklist ...

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
 2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
 3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward — even if not money — for my personal AA efforts?
 4. Do I try to sound like an AA expert on Alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
 5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly between them?
 6. In my own AA like, have I any experiences to illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
- Have I paid enough attention to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*? To the pamphlet *AA Tradition — How It Developed*?

On the Eighth Step ...



A Pre-Eighth Step Prayer:

*“God, Please re-
move my Fears
and show me
your truth.*

*Show me all the harms I have
caused with my behavior and help
me be willing to make amends to
one and all. Help me to be willing
to go to any lengths for victory over
alcohol.”*

(Big Book, Pg 76 Para 3)